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Local Aerial Gunner is Awarded Silver Wings (Homer W. Clark) 8-21-1944

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LOCAL AERIAL GUNNER IS AWARDED SILVER WINGS

1944
Harlingen Army Air Field, Texas, August 21.—Another large class of aerial gunners to guard Army Air Forces' bombers was graduated this week from the AAF Training Command aerial gunnery school here and among the qualified "sharpshooters of the sky" was Private First Class Homer W. Clark of Newton.

At brief graduation exercises held here he received a pair of gunner's wings as well as a promotion in grade. Unless retrained at Harlingen as an instructor, he will join an aerial combat team.

A comprehensive seven - weeks' course in every phase of aerial gunnery warfare prepared him for his place in America's stepped-up air offensive. Besides learning to fire every type weapon from camera guns to the deadly caliber .50 Brownings, he studied turret manipulation, aircraft recognition and was required to tear down and assemble weapons while blindfolded. He climaxed the course by firing on towed targets from Liberator bombers under simulated combat conditions.

He was employed by the Press before entering the service, and is here on furlough now.